

ARTICLE APPEARED

ON PAGE A-2

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German Mechanic Is Convicted of Espionage

TAMPA, June 29 (AP)—West German auto mechanic Ernst Ludwig Forbrich was found guilty today on two espionage charges involving an attempt to buy U.S. military secrets from an undercover agent to deliver to East Germany.

The charge of trying to deliver secret documents to foreign countries carries a maximum sentence of life

in prison. The lesser charge of buying the documents is punishable by as many as 10 years in prison. Sentencing was set for July 27.

Prosecutors alleged that Forbrich, 44, tried to buy U.S. defense secrets to pass to East German intelligence and made a \$550 down payment March 19 to an undercover agent posing as a U.S. Army officer.